



# CURRENT LITERATURE ON DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

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### LITERATURE AND RESEARCH SUPPORT ON DRUG ABUSE

Balldin, Jan I., Ulf C. Berggren, and Goran Lindstedt.
"Neuroendocrine Evidence for Reduced Dopamine Receptor
Sensitivity in Alcoholism." Alcoholism: Clinical and
Experimental Research, (Baltimore, MD), vol. 16, no. 1,
1992, 71-74. [Call Number: RC565.A4456]

Postsynaptic dopamine (DA) receptor sensitivity was assessed during abstinence in 15 male patients with alcohol dependence. The DA receptor sensitivity was evaluated using growth hormone (GH) responses to the DA receptor agonist apomorphine. The patients were cared for in an alcoholism treatment unit for the two months prior to the investigation. They were carefully controlled for sobriety during this period. Thirteen healthy men were used as controls. The maximum GH responses to apomorphine were significantly reduced in patients compared with those in the control group. The patients had a significantly higher proportion of blunted GH responses. The findings suggest reduced postsynaptic DA, possibly receptor sensitivity in abstinent alcoholics.

Keyword(s): alcoholism; dopamine neurons; receptor
sensitivity

Benishek, Lois A., Kathleen J. Bieschke, Bertram E. Stoffelmayr, Brian E. Mavis, and Keith A. Humphreys. "Gender Differences in Depression and Anxiety Among Alcoholics."

<u>Journal of Substance Abuse</u>, (Norwood, NJ), vol. 4, no. 3, 1992, 235-45. [Call Number: RC565.A43]

This study provides information on gender differences and psychopathology in an alcohol treatment population. It explores the relationship between psychopathology, depression, anxiety, and alcoholism treatment outcome. These variables were assesed in a sample of 507 substance abuse clients at intake and at a 6-month follow-up. For the whole sample and for the men, initial levels of alcohol problems and alcohol dependence were the best predictors of alcohol problems at follow-up. For women, the initial levels of alcohol dependence and a global measure of psychological functioning were predictive of outcome at follow-up.

Keyword(s): gender; depression; anxiety; alcoholics

"Blut von Drogen-Kiez [Blood from the Drug Market]." <u>Der Spiegel</u>, (Hamburg) vol. 47, no. 36, September 6, 1993, 240-42. [Call Number: AP30.S55]

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One-half a gram of heroin costs about US\$30 in Hamburg. In order to get money for drugs, some German drug addicts donate blood and receive about US\$20 per trip to a bloodbank. One firm in Hamburg that is accused of accepting blood from drug addicts has an office just 100 meters from one of this city's main drug markets. Despite the fact that German firms collecting blood have been directed not to accept blood from persons with tattoos, or with needle marks and scars on the inner forearm, some addicts are able to earn money by giving blood. The addicts in Hamburg told the personnel at the bloodbank that the marks on their arms were the result of insect bites and were believed. In Germany as elsewhere, intravenous drug users are frequently infected with serious diseases and/or are HIV positive. For this reason, there are worries that the combination of addicts' need of money and carelessness on the part of some bloodbanks will lead to a contamination of Germany's blood supplies.

Keyword(s): Germany; blood donations; drug addiction

Chassin, Laurie, Clark C. Presson, Steven J. Sherman, and Debra A. Edwards. "Parent Educational Attainment and Adolescent Cigarette Smoking." <u>Journal of Substance Abuse</u>, (Norwood, NJ), vol. 4, no. 3, 1992, 219-34. [Call Number: RC565.A43]

This study examines the relationship between parent education and adolescent smoking, including family and peer environment variables, adolescents' attitudes about conventional behaviors, and their smoking related beliefs. Results show that parent's low educational attainment acted as a moderate to strong risk factor for the initial onset of smoking among middle school girls but not for boys. Some of this effect was mediated by the higher smoking prevalence among both parents and friends of these adolescent girls, as well as by their lowered expectations for academic sucesss.

Keyword(s): cigarette abuse; parents; education

"EG: Vierzig gegen den Mob [EC: Forty against the Mob]" <u>Der Spiegel</u>, (Hamburg) vol. 47, no. 25, June 27, 1993, 61, 63. [Call Number: AP30.S55]

The Trevi Group of the European Community (EC) decided in early June 1993 to establish a forty-man European Drug Unit to combat the illegal drug trade in Europe. There are

plans for this small unit to grow into Europol, a European version of Interpol. The new unit is to collect information about the drug trade and money laundering from police and government institutions of EC members. The powers of this new unit are limited. At present, the unit is not allowed to store data and set up files. All data relating to individuals must be destroyed at the end of one year and responsible officials at the national level must be notified about the transfer of personal information. Only when an international agreement is in place, will the unit be allowed to purchase a central computer.

Keyword(s): European Community; Europe; drug law
enforcement

Evans, Joseph H., Julian J. Fabry, Mary Ellen Sternitzke, Robert A. Bischoff. "Validity of MMPI Profiles With Chemically Dependent Adolescents." <u>Journal of Adolescent Chemical Dependency</u>, (Binghamton, NY), vol. 2, no. 2, 1992, 9-22. [Call Number: RJ506.D78J68]

This study reviewed the applicability of the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) usage with newly admitted chemically dependent adolescents to a treatment program examining the MMPI validation scales.

Keyword(s): adolescent; treatment; chemical dependency;
methodology

Foxcroft, David R., and Geoff Lowe. "The Role of the Family in Adolescent Alcohol Abuse: Socialization and Structural Influences." <u>Journal of Adolescent Chemical Dependency</u>, (Binghamton, NY), vol. 2, no. 2, 1992, 75-91. [Call Number: RJ506.D78J68]

This paper discusses, with illustrative case studies, the role of the family in the development of adolescent drinking behavior. In particular, family socialization is described as being a major influence in the development of an individual's attitudes, perceptions, and orientation to alcohol. Results show that high levels of support and moderate levels of control are optimal for the development of sensible drinking. Structural influences are also important in that adolescents from non-nuclear families are more likely to be substance abusers.

Keyword(s): family; alcohol abuse; socialization

Frissell, Susan. "Adolescent and Elderly Substance Abusers and Their Similarities: Considerations for Treatment." <u>Journal of Adolescent Chemical Dependency</u>, (Binghamton, NY), vol. 2, no. 2, 1992, 1-7. [Call Number: RJ506.D78J68]

Characteristics of chemical dependency common to both adolescents and the elderly are often detected in attitude and include low motivation and loss of interest, hostility, argumentativeness, extreme negativism, low self-esteem, remorse, and denial of any problems. Rejection of an adolescent by parents or peers leads to loss of self-esteem. Similarly, the rejection of the elderly by society or family also leads to loss of self-esteem and unstable self-image. Consequently, the adolescent or elderly person, in the search for acceptance, may turn to drugs or alcohol to self-medicate and to help reduce the discomfort often accompanying feelings of loneliness, hopelessness, and anxiety.

Keyword(s): substances of abuse; treatment; elderly

"Geldwaesche: Heroin am Schein [Money Laundering: Heroin on Bills." <u>Der Spiegel</u>, (Hamburg) vol 47, no. 32, August 9, 1993, 45. [Call Number: AP30.S55]

Employees working in Germany's post office banks have been told to be more careful about the money they accept for transfer abroad. An investigation of post office banks in the city of Hamburg has revealed that in 1992 these banks had tranferred about US\$65 million earned from the illicit drug trade to Turkey. Hamburg police cited an incident in which a young Turk appeared at the counter of a post office bank with about \$US6,500 in cash in a plastic bag. Tests revealed that there were traces of heroin on the bills. Postal regulations permit employees to refuse to accept suspicious transactions "when the interest of the public requires it."

Keyword(s): Germany; money laundering; drug trade

Gerstein, Dean R., and Lawrence W. Green. <u>Preventing Drug Abuse.</u>
<u>What Do We Know?</u>. (Washington, D.C.), National Academy
Press, 1993. [Call Number: HV5825.PP74]

As the nation's drug crisis has deepened, public and private agencies have invested huge sums of money in prevention efforts. This book provides a comprehensive overview of what we know about drug abuse prevention and its effectiveness, including results of a wide range of antidrug efforts; a profile of the drug problem, including a look at drug use by different population groups; an exploration of three major schools of prevention theory—risk factor reduction, developmental change, and social influence; a view of the role and effectiveness of mass media in preventing drug use; and an examination of promising prevention techniques from other areas of health and human services. This volume includes discussion between low self-esteem and drug use, the role of schools, and the reality of changing drug use in the population.

Keyword(s): prevention; substances of abuse; United States

Koechling, Ulrike M., and Zalman Amit. "Relationship Between Blood Catalase Activity and Drinking History in a Human Population, A Possible Biological Marker of the Affinity to Consume Alcohol." <u>Alcohol and Alcoholism</u>, (London), vol. 27, no. 2, 1992, 181-88. [Call Number: HV5441.J6]

The relationship between blood catalase activity and alcohol consumption was investigated in a group of Caucasian volunteers. Subjects individually attended a one hour session during which they were asked to complete the Michigan Alcoholism Screening Test and MacAndrew Scale, supply information on alcohol consumption and other drug use by answering the Concordia Alcohol Screening Questionnaire, and provide a blood sample from a fingertip. Results showed a significant positive relationship between typical Q-value and catalase activity, which improved after eliminating multiple drug users from the analysis. Multiple regression analysis showed that catalase activity combined with being male, using cocaine or crack, scoring highly on the MacAndrew Scale and having alcohol-related problems, explained a significant portion of the variance in Typical Q-Value. The results support both the notion that catalase activity is a strong positive determinant of alcohol intake and the hypothesis that the enzyme catalase plays a role in regulating voluntary ethanol consumption.

Keyword(s): alcoholism; biological marker; blood catalase

Larson, Eric W., Ann Olincy, Teresa A Rummans, and Robert M.
Morse. "Disulfiram Treatment of Patients With Both Alcohol
Dependence and Other Psychiatric Disorders: A Review."

<u>Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research</u>,
(Baltimore, MD), vol. 16, no. 1, 1992, 125-30. [Call
Number: RC565.A4456]

In treatment of alcohol dependence, disulfiram is most useful in conjunction with a structured, supervised, aftercare program. However, it has been reported to cause psychiatric side effects and to interact with various psychiatric medications. Many patients with alcohol dependence suffer from other psychiatric disorders and are treated with such psychiatric medications. This papers reviews the pertinent clinical pharmacology of disulfiram and the literature on potential psychiatric complications and drug interactions of disulfirum. At the usual dosage, about 250 mg/day, disulfiram does not appear to increase significantly the risk of psychiatric complications or of psychiatric drug interactions. Therefore, it can be considered a treatment option for patients with alchol dependence and other psychiatric disorders.

Keyword(s): alcoholism; treatment; psychiatric disorders

Pieninkeroinen, Ilkka P., Tiina M. Telakivi, and Matti E.
Hillbom. "Outcome in Subjects With Alcohol-Provoked
Seizures." Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research,
(Baltimore, MD), vol. 16, no. 5, 1992, 955-59. [Call
Number: RC565.A4456]

The outcome in 165 subjects with either an unknown or an alcohol-related seizure etiology, admitted to the emergency room of a general hospital in 1977-78, was assessed after 10 years on the basis of subsequent hospital records and death-certificate-based mortality data. Alcohol and/or drug poisoning was the most frequent cause of death in the group with alcohol-related seizures. Twenty percent of those with an unknown seizure etiology were found to show alcohol-related seizures, while the seizure etiology remained unknown in nearly 60 percent, and a specific etiology other than alcohol abuse was revealed in 21 percent during the follow-up period. It is concluded that alcohol abuse is an important, though often undetected, seizure etiology carrying a poor prognosis. The difference in mortality between the groups was due more to alcoholism than to seizures. There was no difference in mortality between those with a first

alcohol-related seizure and those with previous alcohol-related seizures.

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Keyword(s): epilepsy; mortality; alcohol

Pol, Stanislas, Francois Durand, Jacques Bernuau, Jean-Francois Colin, Frederic Dubois, Marc Hautekeete, Christine Rouzioux, Claude Degott, Bernard Rueff, and Jean-Pierre Benhamou. "Herpesvirus Infection of the Respiratory Tract in Patients with Alcoholic Hepatitis." Alcoholism:

Clinical and Experimental Research, (Baltimore, MD), vol. 16, no. 5, 1992, 979-81. [Call Number: RC565.A4456]

Respiratory herpesvirus infections have rarely been described in alcoholics. This study reports of four cases of severe respiratory herpesvirus infections in patients with alcoholic liver disease. Two were related to Herpes Simplex Virus and two to Cytomegalovirus. Both chronic alcoholism and severe liver disease induce immunosuppression, which might account for these unusual herpesvirus infections of the respiratory tract. These cases suggest that infections with herpesviruses should be considered in patients with alcoholic liver disease and pulmonary or tracheobronchial disease unresponsive to standard antibiotic therapy. Bonchoscopy, viral culture, and serological tests appear warranted, particularly given the existence of specific therapy.

Keyword(s): alcoholism; hepatitis; herpesvirus

Rosman, Alan S. "Utility and Evaluation of Biochemical Markers of Alcohol Consumption." <u>Journal of Substance Abuse</u>, (Norwood, NJ), vol. 4, no. 3, 1992, 277-97. [Call Number: RC565.A43]

Biochemical markers of alcohol consumption have a variety of clinical and reasearch applications. Currently available markers such as the serum gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase (GGT and the mean corpuscular volume (MCV) lack sufficient sensitivity to be used for screening of alcoholism in ambulatory patients. However, these tests can be useful in corroborating a clinical suspicion of alcoholism. A number of special laboratory markers of alcoholism recently have been developed which may have increased diagnostic accuracy. Promising potential markers include serum carbohydrate-deficient transferrin (CDT), red blood cell acetaldehyde, and acetaldehyde adducts.

Keyword(s): biochemical markers; alcohol consumption; methodology

Stuppaeck, C.H., R. Pycha, C. Miller, A.B. Whitworth, H.
Oberbauer, and W.W. Fleischhacker. "Carbamazepine Versus
Oxazepam in the Treatment of Alcohol Withdrawal: A
Double-Blind Study." Alcohol and Alcoholism, (London),
vol. 27, no. 2, 1992, 153-58. [Call Number: HV5441.J6]

In a double-blind study the authors compared the efficacy of carbamazepine with that of oxazepam, in 60 in-patients suffering from alcohol withdrawal syndrome. The main rating instrument was the Clinical Institute Withdrawal Scale-Alcohol. The seven-day trial showed equal efficacy of carbamazepine and oxazepam during the first five days and a statistically significant superiority of carbamazepine on days six and seven. Four patients in each group were dropped from the study due to side effects after having withdrawn informed consent. There was no decrease in white blood counts under carbamazepine. The experience with carbamazepine up to now shows suggest a more widespread use, especially in non-delirious withdrawal states.

Keyword(s): alcohol; treatment; methodology

Suski, Peter J. "Responding to Substance Abuse and Its Related Issues." <u>Journal of Adolescent Chemical Dependency</u>, (Binghamton, NY), vol. 2, no. 2, 1992, 45-57. [Call Number: RJ506.D78J68]

The field of substance abuse services possesses three distinct levels of response to the issues resulting from the use, abuse, and addiction to chemical substances. The primary response is prevention; the secondary, intervention; and the tertiary, treatment. This paper defines and explains each of the three response levels as well as discusses each level's application to adolescents in need. The components of model response programs are also presented and examined.

Keyword(s): substance abuse; prevention; treatment

"Weg aus der Szene [A Way out of the Scene]." <u>Der Spiegel</u>, (Hamburg) vol. 47, no. 32, August 9, 1993, 99. [Call Number: AP30.S55]

Germany's conservative governing coalition remains opposed to supplying the country's 100,000 drug addicts with methadone. Despite the results of scientific studies and the repeated experiences of social workers, the central government has blocked by various means the establishment of new methadone clinics. The vice president of Germany's police union has called for a relaxation of the government's position and other policemen have judged the government's drug policy a failure. An estimated 40 percent of crimes such as robbery, theft, and burglaries are committed by addicts seeking money for their next drug dose. A study in Hamburg found that the methadone program there had amazing success in reducing crime. Before addicts received methadone, half sold drugs or stole. After treatment began, only one out of thirty committed crimes. A study done by Johns Hopkins University in the United States had similar results, and one done in England where addicts received heroin, cocaine, and/or methadone found that crimes committed by these addicts fell by 96 percent.

Keyword(s): Germany; drug treatment centers; methadone

Wilsnack, Sharon C., Albert D. Klassen, Brett E. Schur, and Richard W. Wilsnack. "Predicting Onset and Chronicity of Women's Problem Drinking: A Five-Year Longitudinal Analysis." American Journal of Public Health, (Washington, D.C.), vol. 81, no. 3, 1993, 305-17. [Call Number: RA421.A395]

To study the development of women's problem drinking over time, five-year follow-up interviews were conducted with two groups of respondents from a 1981 national survey of women's drinking. Among 1981 nonproblem drinkers, the predictors of onset of problem drinking indicators by 1986 included younger age, cohabiting, and lifetime use of drugs other than alcohol. The most consistent predictor of persistent (chronic) problem drinking was sexual dysfunction; other predictors included being employed part-time or never married, and experiencing recent depression. Divorce or separation predicted lower levels of subsequent alcohol dependence among problem drinkers.

Keyword(s): women; problem drinking; methodology

York, James L., and Irving Biederman. "Hand Movement Speed and Accuracy in Detoxified Alcoholics." <u>Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research</u>, (Baltimore, MD), vol. 15, no. 6, 1992, 982-90. [Call Number: RC565.A4456]

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Detoxified alcoholics were found to be 9.3 percent slower than age-matched controls with regard to composite speed (movement time) with which they were able to strike targets of various sizes and distances with a hand-held stylus at onset of light stimulus. Females were 8 percent slower than males, and African-Americans about 15.6 percent slower than whites. Gender was the only significant factor with regard to errors, with women committing 28 percent fewer errors than men. Women, in contrast to men, appear to trade speed for accuracy in this task. Favorable socioeconomic/medical status and target misses were directly related to movement speed. Thus, when the movement time data were corrected for lifestyle variables, the significance of the alcohol effects on movement time disappeared, but gender differences persisted.

Keyword(s): alcoholics; motor performance; gender